

COUNCIL ON HUMAN SERVICES

MINUTES

November 12, 2014

COUNCIL

Mark Anderson
Phyllis Hansell
Alexa Heffernan
Mark Peltan
Guy Richardson (absent)
Kim Spading
Roberta Yoder

EX-OFFICIO LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS

Representative Joel Fry (absent)
Representative Lisa Heddens (absent)
Senator Amanda Ragan (absent)
Senator Jack Whitver (absent)

STAFF

Chuck Palmer
Sandy Knudsen
Jen Harbison

Nancy Freudenberg
Wendy Rickman

GUESTS

John Harvey, VOCAL
Kent Ohms, Legislative Services Agency
Kristie Oliver, Coalition for Family & Children Services
Sandi Hurtado-Peters, Department of Management
Bill Nutty, LeadingAge Iowa
Sara Allen, Iowa Hospital Association
Maddie Yassen, University of Iowa, Pharmacy Student

CALL TO ORDER

Mark Peltan, Chair, called the Council meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 12, 2014, in the first floor conference rooms of the Hoover State Office Building.

ROLL CALL

All Council members were present with the exception of Richardson. All ex-officio legislative members were absent.

DIVISION REPORT: ADULT, CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

Wendy Rickman, Administrator, Division of Adult, Children and Family Services, addressed the Council regarding the child welfare system. The department serves children who:

- are at-risk of abuse or neglect,
- have been adjudicated a Child in Need of Assistance (CINA)
- at risk of becoming a delinquent
- have been adjudicated delinquent
- are transitioning from the foster care system into adulthood

Rickman provided an overview of the Child Welfare Redesign and focused on the efforts on Family Team Decision-Making, Community Care and the Children of Color activities.

Guiding principles include that services must be available equally to all children statewide, that children are safe, and that children grow up best in their families. Families can gain the skills necessary to effectively support their children and they need and deserve community support to parent.

DHS began its Differential Response system in January 2014. The new system consists of two pathways, Family Assessment and Child Abuse Assessment to respond to allegations of neglect and abuse. The goal is to build on a family's resources and develop supports for the family in their community while reducing the need for higher service intervention. It is expected that children will be as safe or safer than they were under the more investigative model.

Rickman provided the following handouts to the Council:

- Improving the Quality of Services for Children and Families
- Chart – identifies the myriad of systems/programs affecting families
- Overview of Child Welfare Redesign
- Iowa DHS Child Welfare Model of Practice
- Better Results for Kids Through the Eyes of a Family
- Chart – State of Iowa Differential Response – Assessment Outcome and Service Provision
- FY2014 CFS Report YTD through Final
- Draft - Child Welfare Service Array Timeline (5/16/14)
- Differential Response Flow Chart
- Chart – Similarities of Assessments
- Differential Response – System Overview, January 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014
- Family Team and Youth Transition Decision-Making Standards
- The “Blue Sheet” – Practical Application of Iowa’s Blueprint for Permanency

RULES

Nancy Freudenberg, Bureau of Policy Coordination, presented the following rules to Council:

Amendments to Chapters 107, 108 and 200, Adoption. These amendments provide technical updates to adoption rules, reports and requirements.

A motion was made by Hansell to approve and seconded by Yoder. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

REPORT OF NOTICED ACTION

N-1 Amendments to Chapter 77. These amendments update an obsolete reference relating to requirements by the Board of Education Examiners for AEA employees.

N-2 Amendments to Chapter 81. These amendments update definitions for PASRR and ICF/PMI facilities. In addition, these amendments update occupancy rates in accordance with 2014 Iowa Acts, HF 2463. These amendments update allowable nursing facility per diem rates and clarify payment for reserve bed days in the state-run Iowa Veteran's Home. These amendments provide technical updates to remove obsolete references.

N-3 Amendments to Chapters 109 and 110. Streamlines the current record check process for employees of child care centers and child development homes by aligning the process with the centralized process used for other areas of the Department.

N-4 Amendments to Chapters 117 and 200. Provides a pre-service training specific to Native American families to increase the number of licensed Native American families available for placement of Native American children who come into the child welfare system.

A motion was made by Heffernan to accept the Report of Noticed Action and seconded by Spading. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Yoder to approve the minutes of October 8, 2014 and seconded by Anderson. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

COUNCIL MEMBERS' UPDATE

Hansell and Heffernan reported that they appreciated last month's meeting at the Independence Mental Health Institution, finding the visit very informative.

Anderson thanked DHS staff for information relating to the Brain Injury Waiver program's appeal and waiting list process.

Spading reported that another Hepatitis C drug has been approved and is waiting for Medicaid formulating – the drug has an approximate cost of \$100,000 per patient per year.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Palmer, Vern Armstrong and Wendy Rickman meet quarterly with Iowa Family Rights (IFR) representatives to constructively concentrate on the system concerns raised by IFR. Overall the meetings have gone well.

The Iowa Revenue Estimate Conference (REC) takes place in mid-December. There is a relatively short time following the REC that the Governor makes his budget recommendations.

DHS is spending more time meeting with the Department of Education, Special Education and the Courts focusing on how the roles interface.

CoOpportunity and Coventry are the two insurance providers in the Marketplace. Beginning December 1, CoOpportunity will no longer serve Medicaid clients. Going forward, until there is another insurer that comes into the market, people will be assigned either to Coventry or to the fee-for-service.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council on Human Services will be via teleconference Wednesday, December 10, 2014.

A motion was made by Anderson to adjourn and seconded by Spading.
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Council adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Submitted by,

Sandy Knudsen
Recording Secretary

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